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THE TATLER.

A DAILY PAPER OF LITERATURE, FINE ARTS, MUSIC, AND THE STAGE.

VERITAS ET VARIETAS.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1831.

MOORE'S 'LIFE AND DEATH OF LORD EDWARD FITZGERALD.'*

[Continued.]

It was at this juncture that Lord Edward Fitzgerald fell in love with and married the young lady, designated by his biographer, as the 'adopted, or as may now be said without scruple, actual daughter of Madame de Genlis, by the Duke of Orleans.' This pithy parenthesis, in an author so tender towards deceased rank as Mr Moore, contrasts curiously enough with the full, true, and particular, but as Mr Moore here lets us understand, elaborately false account given of the young lady, by the devout Madame de Genlis, in her Memoirs. How he reconciles it to his polite practices towards the fashionable departed dead, we cannot say; but as it is to be granted that they cannot care much about the matter, we say no more on the subject. The lady, well known under the name of Pamela, seems to have made a good wife. It is curious that M. de Chartres, the present King of the French, half-brother, it seems, of Lady Edward Fitzgerald, was one of the witnesses of the marriage; and he signs himself Louis-Philippe *Egalité*, the surname adopted by his father, in honour of the new principles. Meanwhile the bridegroom had had his name struck off the English army list. Lord Edward returned to England, accompanied by his wife, and shortly proceeded to Dublin, to attend a new session of Parliament. The discontents of the Irish, the causes of which it is not necessary here to enter upon, had been rapidly increasing of late years. It is not to be supposed, but that the example of the French had contributed to exasperate them. Nevertheless, Lord Edward Fitzgerald passed a few years of quiet happiness, with a wife and growing family, till he thought it became him to take an active and perilous part in the service of his countrymen. He became one of the most zealous and useful leaders of the United Irishmen; was detected with the others, by means of that scoundrel Reynolds the informer (who is still, we believe, existing in some corner of the earth, with the odour of his blood-money in his nostrils); had a price set upon his head; was discovered after various concealments; and in a desperate scuffle which ensued with his captors, received a mortal wound, of which he died a lingering death in prison, on the morning of the 4th of June 1798. The cruel and vindictive fears of the weak men who then governed Ireland, had refused his nearest relations permission to see him till almost the last moment; which produced an admirable letter after his death, from his brother Lord Henry Fitzgerald, to the Lord Lieutenant. We regret we have not room for it; and yet it may be as well to let it pass. The most tragical human absurdities originate in mistakes, common to humanity, and not with the individuals who commit them; and it is enough for us to smart for the wounds inflicted on one another, in the battles of one's own time. There was an affection of the highest kind between Lord Edward and his brother: it existed among the whole family: the mother in particular appears to have been idolized by her poor son, as we shall have abundant and delightful occasion to shew in our next. Meantime, however, we must lay before the reader, the details of Lord Edward's capture and death, with which our present number shall conclude. We keep the bright, and luckily the far larger portion of his existence for the last.

Lord Edward had been concealed at the houses of various friends, among whom we should have been glad had the name of the lady been mentioned, with whom he resided the longest, and the strength of whose resolution deserves immortal honour, because the gaiety of his spirit often hazarded a discovery; and she was of a nature to feel all the peril which she hazarded. A striking instance of this is related at page 77, volume the second. He was to return one evening to her house in female attire, and it was to be announced to her that Miss Fitzgerald from Athy had come. Prepared as she was for the announcement, she fainted. It is due, however, to Lord Edward to suppose that he had not been aware of the extent of this sensibility, because his attention to a female under similar circumstances is on record, and he was remarkable for his considerate tenderness to all about him, women in particular. The person in whose house his Lordship was taken was a Mr Murphy, a feather manufacturer, in Thomas street. On the 19th of May, an alarm was produced by the appearance of soldiers in the street, but it subsided, and Lord Edward ventured from his hiding place to dinner.

'After dinner, Mr Murphy,' says the biographer, 'had just begun to ask his host whether he would like some tea, when hearing a trampling on the stairs, he turned round, and saw Major Swan enter the room. Scarcely had this officer time to mention the object of his visit, when Lord Edward jumped up, as Murphy describes him, "like a tiger," from the bed; on seeing which Swan fired a small pocket-pistol at him, but without effect, and then turning round short upon Murphy, from whom he seemed to apprehend an attack, thrust the pistol violently in his face, saying to a soldier who just then entered, "Take that fellow away." Almost at the same instant, Lord Edward struck at Swan with a dagger, which, it now appeared, he had had in the bed with him, and immediately after Ryan, armed only with a sword-cane, entered the room.

'In the mean time Major Sirr, who had stopped below to place the pickets round the house, hearing the report of Swan's pistol, hurried up to the landing, and from thence saw within the room Lord Edward struggling between Swan and Ryan, the latter down on the floor, weltering in his blood, and both clinging to their powerful adversary, who was now dragging them towards the door. Threatened as he was with a fate similar to that of his companions, Sirr had no alternative but to fire, and aiming his pistol deliberately, he lodged the contents in Lord Edward's right arm, near the shoulder. The wound for a moment staggered him; but as he again rallied, and was pushing towards the door, Major Sirr called up the soldiers; and so desperate were their captive's struggles, that they found it necessary to lay their firelocks across him before he could be disarmed or bound so as to prevent further mischief.

'It was during one of these instinctive efforts of courage that the opportunity was, as I understand, taken by a wretched drummer to give him a wound in the back of the neck, which, though slight, yet from its position contributed not a little to aggravate the uneasiness of his last hours. There are also instances mentioned of rudeness, both in language and conduct, which he had to suffer, while in this state, from some of the minor tools of government, and which, even of such men, it is painful and difficult to believe. But so it is,

> 'Curs snap at lions in the toils, whose looks
> Frighted them being free.'—P. 87.

This is true. You may make friends with a lap-dog or a porter's cur in your prosperity; but let fortune, or the porter insult you, and see how you shall be treated. Poor old Lear had the same notion of puppies and turnspits:—

> 'The little dogs and all,
> Tray, Blanch, and Sweetheart,—see they bark at me.'

'In the desperate resistance which he made, Lord Edward had no other weapon than a dagger, and the number of wounds he seems to have inflicted with it on his two adversaries, is such as almost to exceed belief. This dagger was given by Lord Clane, a day or two after the arrest, to Mr Brown, a gentleman well known and still living in Dublin, who has by some accident lost it. He describes it to me, however, as being about the length of a large case knife, with a common buck handle,—the blade, which was two-edged, being of a waved shape, like that of the sword represented in the hands of the angel in the common prints prefixed to the last book of Paradise Lost.'—P. 94.

During Lord Edward's imprisonment, which took place in the Castle of Dublin, he heard of the death of Ryan; which it is observed in some affecting memorandums from the pen of his brother Henry, 'caused a dreadful turn in his mind.' He also heard a man executed at the prison-door. On the 2nd June he lost his senses, and a keeper from a mad-house was put with him. He recovered during the night. The following are the particulars that occurred during the few hours that preceded his death, as related by his kinswoman Lady Louisa Conolly, in a letter to father-in-law. How affecting are the passages we have marked in Italics:—

* *The Life and Death of Lord Edward Fitzgerald. By Thomas Moore.* 2 vols. 8vo. Longman.

'Dublin, June 4th, 1798.

My Dear Mr Ogilvie,—'At two o'clock this morning our beloved Edward was at peace; and, as the tender and watchful mercy of God is ever over the afflicted, we have reason to suppose this dissolution took place at the moment it was fittest it should do so. On Friday night, a very great lowness came on, that made those about him consider him much in danger. On Saturday he seemed to have recovered the attack, but on that night was again attacked with spasms, that subsided again yesterday morning. But, in the course of the day, Mrs Pakenham (from whom I had my constant accounts) thought it best to send an express for me. I came to town, and got leave to go with my poor, dear Henry, to see him.

'Thanks to the great God! our visit was timed to the moment that the wretched situation allowed of. His mind had been agitated for two days, and the feeling was enough gone, not to be overcome by the sight of his brother and me. We had the consolation of seeing and feeling that it was a pleasure to him. I first approached his bed: he looked at me, knew me, kissed me, and said (*what will never depart from my ears*), "*It is heaven for me to see you!*" and shortly after, turning to the other side of his bed, he said, "I can't see you." I went round, and he soon after kissed my hand, and *smiled at me*, which I shall never forget, *though I saw death in his dear face at the time*. I then told him that Henry was come. He said nothing that marked surprise at his being in Ireland, but expressed joy at hearing it, and said, "Where is he, dear fellow?"

'Henry then took my place, and the two dear brothers frequently embraced each other, to the melting a heart of stone; and yet God enabled both Henry and myself to remain quite composed. As every one left the room, we told him we only were with him. He said, "This is very pleasant." However, he remained silent, and I then brought in the subject of Lady Edward, and told him that I had not left her until I saw her on board; and Henry told him of having met her on the road well. He said, "And the children too?—She is a charming woman."—and then became silent again. That expression about Lady Edward proved to me that his senses were much lulled, and that he did not feel his situation to be what it was; but thank God; they were enough alive to receive pleasure from seeing his brother and me. Dear Henry, in particular, *he looked at continually with an expression of pleasure*.

'When we left him, we told him that as he appeared inclined to sleep, we would wish him a good night, and return in the morning. He said "Do, do," but did not express any uneasiness at our leaving him. We accordingly tore ourselves away, and very shortly after Mr Garnet (the surgeon that attended him for the two days, upon the departure of Mr Stone, the officer that had been constantly with him) sent me word that the last convulsions soon came on, and ended at two o'clock, so that we were within two hours and a half before the sad close of a life we prized so dearly. He sometimes said, "I knew it must come to this, and we must all go;" and then rambled a little about militia and numbers; but upon my saying to him. "It agitates you to talk upon these subjects," said he, "Well, I won't."

'I hear that he frequently composed his dear mind with prayer,—was vastly devout, and, as late as yesterday evening, got Mr Garnet, the surgeon, to read in the bible, the death of Christ, the subject picked out by himself, and seemed much composed by it. In short, my dear Mr Ogilvie, we have every reason to think that his mind was made up to his situation, and can look to his present happy state, with thanks for his release. Such a heart and such a mind may meet his God!'—Vol. II, p. 135.

[To be concluded in our next].

GARDENING AND BOTANY.*

We have watched for the publication of the volume before us with some impatience, and heartily welcome it. Relying on Mr Don's perfect competence to the task he had undertaken, we had no fears but that the work would be executed with ability equal to its importance. The publishers, we thought, could not have entrusted it to any person better qualified to do it justice, both by his extensive knowledge of the subject, as well practical as theoretical, and by that patient and persevering industry which enabled him to acquire it. It is a valuable work, the completion of which we anticipate with pleasure. Yet we acknowledge that we regret the arrangement which the author has adopted, and the narrow limits within which either he or his publishers have confined it.

First with regard to the arrangement: we speak the more freely on this subject, inasmuch as being neither profoundly studied in the science, nor altogether ignorant of it, we can form some judgment of the wants of all parties, while any arrangement will suffice for ourselves. For professors, there is no question but that the Jussieuan arrangement is, at present, the best adapted; and, however we may be tempted to doubt, with the late Mr Roscoe, what superior claim that system may have to the epithet *Natural*, we shall not here attempt the discussion of a question, which would demand more space than we can afford. But professors are the minority; to the great majority of individuals who would desire to consult a work of this nature, the present arrangement will be very inconvenient, and, to many persons will render it utterly useless. Whatever may be the merits of the Linnæan or of the Jussieuan systems, the former is undoubtedly the more encouraging; and, although many would chuse to follow it up with the study of the latter, we suspect the greater number would be repelled by the comparative difficulty, and consequently deterred from a labour so formidable. It is not probable, nor perhaps desirable, that the study of botany should always be pursued to the extent necessary for the proper understanding of the work before us; and there is no other which serves as a general reference for the knowledge of exotic plants. For the scientific, Mr Don's work is all-sufficient; and we have no right to complain of it, on this point; but for the general purposes of education, or of reference for the many, it cannot supply the place of Martyn's Miller; and therefore we regret that the arrangement is such as threatens to check the cultivation of botany as a branch of education or as a voluntary elegance, whilst he appearance of the book will probably be an obstacle to any edition of Miller in a more simple form. So much has been said to under-rate the system of Linnæus, which has been represented as beneath the intellect of any but the dull and the idle, that many persons are ashamed to have recourse to it, or to support its pretensions; and thus all that has been done for some years past, with a design of simplifying the pursuit of botany, is likely to be rendered of no use. For ourselves, we would willingly have seen the alphabetical arrangement preserved, as calculated to render the book more extensively useful. The very objection which Mr Don urges against that plan, appears to us an argument in its favour. It was necessary, he says, to deviate from that arrangement, 'in consequence of the numerous and almost daily changes which have taken place in the Botanical Nomenclature of late years' The frequency of such changes has been a great and acknowledged evil, and unless there be some fixed standard, as in the case of a dictionary of language, there must be endlessly increasing confusion. A standard work like this, should be considered as an authority, and act as a salutary check to this constant change, which in many instances, proceeds from mere vanity, and is seldom of sufficient importance to warrant it.

Another, and a greater objection to the work is, that, notwithstanding the numerous botanical discoveries which have been made since the last edition of Martyn's Miller, it contains less matter. That work contained many observations which, though not necessary to the definition of the species, were of the utmost importance to the botanical student, and interesting to the general reader. There is, too, one great deficiency, for which the title-page does not prepare us. A work cannot justly be said to contain a description of 'all plants hitherto known,' which omits the whole of the Cryptogamia. It may be intended to add a sequel containing that class, but no such intention is announced. This is surely a great defect in a work so comprehensive.

What we have said of the purely scientific character of this work, will suffice to shew that it is unlikely to furnish very copious extracts, of interest to the general reader; it is not, however, altogether without such passages, as we hope to prove by the few we have selected:—

THE EGYPTIAN OR PYTHAGOREAN BEAN.

(*Nelumbium speciosum.*)

'It was known to the Greeks, and is said by Herodotus, Theophrastus and others, to be a native of Egypt, but no modern traveller has observed it in that country. There can, however, be no doubt of its having actually existed there, either naturally or cultivated, since the terms in which it is described by those authors are too clear and decisive to be mistaken, and their accounts are confirmed by ancient Egyptian sculptures and mosaics, which are still preserved, and testify that from the earliest times, it, as well as the proper *Lotos*, has obtained a religious reverence. It is remarkable that neither Herodotus nor Theophrastus, the most ancient writers by which it is described, have attributed any sacred character to it, but speak of it as only used as food by the Egyptians. Both root and seeds are esculent, sapid and wholesome. They are accounted cooling and strengthening, and to be of service in extreme thirst, heat, &c. In China it is called *Lienoha*, and the seeds, and slices of the hairy root, with the kernels of apricots, and walnuts, and alternate layers of ice, were frequently presented to the British Ambassador and his suite at breakfasts given by some of the principal Mandarins. The roots are laid up by the Chinese in salt and vinegar for the winter. Sir George Staunton remarks that the

* *A General System of Gardening and Botany; containing a Complete Enumeration and Description of all Plants hitherto known; with their Generic and Specific Characters, Places of Growth, Time of Flowering, Mode of Culture, and their Uses in Medicine and Domestic Economy Preceded by Introductions to the Linnæan and Natural Systems, and a Glossary of the Terms used. Founded upon Miller's 'Gardener's Dictionary,' and arranged according to the Natural System. By George Don, F.L.S.* In 4 vols. 4to. Vol. I. Messrs Rivington; Clarke; Longman and Co; Cadell; &c.

leaf, besides its common uses, has, from its structure, growing immediately round the stalk, the advantage of defending the flower and fruit arising from its centre, from contact with the water which might injure them. He also remarks that the stem never fails to ascend in the water from whatever depth, unless in a case of sudden inundation, until it attains the surface, when its leaf expands, rests upon it, and often rises above it. Many varieties of the plant are distinguished by the Chinese; one of them with pure white flowers, and another having about an hundred petals, white or rose-colored. From the root of the *Nelumbo*, Sir George Staunton says the Egyptians are supposed to have prepared their *Colocasia*, but the plant is no longer to be found wild in that country, from which some naturalists infer, that it never was indigenous there, but cultivated by the inhabitants with extreme care. The ancient Romans made repeated efforts to raise it among them from seeds brought out of Egypt. Dr Patrick Browne is of opinion that the ancients confounded two plants under the name of *Lotos* or *Egyptian-bean*, and that under these titles they described the upper parts of the Nelumbium, and the roots of the *Coladium Colocasia*, now commonly called Coccos, in Jamaica. Thunberg says it is considered as a sacred plant in Japan, and familiar to their deities, and that the images of their idols were often drawn sitting on its large leaves. Loureiro relates that it abounds in muddy marshes in India and China, and is cultivated in large handsome pots in the gardens and houses of the Mandarins. The Chinese have always held this plant in such high value, that at length they regarded it as sacred. The seeds are somewhat of the size and form of an acorn, and of a taste more delicate than that of almonds. The ponds in India and China are literally covered with the plant, and exhibit a very shewy appearance when it is in flower; and the flowers are no less fragrant than handsome. It is the Pythagorean bean of the ancients, and has been regarded from the most remote periods as an emblem of fertility.

THE HOLY ROSE, OR ROSE OF JERICHO.

'The leaves fall off from the plant after flowering, and the branches and branchlets become dry, hard and ligneous, and rise upwards and bend inwards at their points, hence they become contracted into a globular form, and in this state the plant is easily drawn from the sand by the wind, and blown from the desert into the sea, and as soon as it comes in contact with the water, the branches gradually expand, and the pods open, and relieve the seeds, which are thrown again upon the shore by the tide, and scattered with the sand through the desert by the wind. If this plant is taken up before it is withered, and kept entire in a dry room, it may be long preserved, and after being many years in this situation, if the root is placed in a glass of water a few hours, the buds of flowers will swell open and appear as if newly taken out of the ground, or it will recover its original form in the same manner if wholly immersed in water. The common people in Palestine believe that if you put this plant in water at the time when a woman first experiences the pains of child-birth, it will expand at the precise moment when the infant is brought into the world. The plant is called *Kaf Maryam*, or *Mary's Flower*, in Palestine, because it is supposed that the flower opened the instant our Saviour was born.

THE CIVET-CAT DURION.

'The fruit of this plant presents a remarkable instance of strong contrast between the scent and the flavour. It is about the size of a man's head, and is said to be the most delicious of all the fruits of India. The eatable part of it is that aril-like substance which contains the kernels, and which most resembles cream, or the *blanc-manger* of our tables; but a considerable drawback from the extreme gratification it procures to the palate of the epicurean is its intolerable stench; even the rinds emit such an offensive effluvia, that at Amboyna, as Rumphius and Valentine state, it is forbidden by the law to throw them out near any public path. . . . . The fruit is used as a bait to entrap the civet-cat, which is very fond of it; hence the specific name.

THE MONKEY-BREAD, LOUR-GOURD, OR BAHOBAB-TREE.

'It is considered as the largest, or rather the broadest tree in the world. Several trees mentioned by Mr Adanson were from 65 to 78 feet in circumference, but very low in proportion. The trunks were from 12 to 15 feet high, before they divided into many horizontal branches, which touched the ground at their extremities; these were from 45 to 55 feet long, and so large, that each branch was equal to a monstrous tree; and where the water of a neighbouring river had washed away the earth, so as to leave the roots of one of these trees bare and open to the sight, they measured 110 feet long, without including those parts of the roots which remained covered. Adanson calculates its growth as follows:—

At 1 year old it is	1½ inch in diameter, and	5 feet in height.
20	1 foot	15
30	2	22
100	4	29
1000	14	58
2400	18	64
5150	30	73

'The tree arrives at a great age, whence it has been called *arbre de mille ans*, and whence, too, Humboldt has been led to speak of it as the "oldest organic monument of our planet." The tree yields a fruit which resembles a gourd, and which serves for vessels of various uses; the bark furnishes a coarse thread which they form into ropes, and into a cloth, with which the natives cover their middle from the girdle to the knees. The small leaves supply them with food in a time of scarcity, while the large ones are used for covering their houses. The dried leaves reduced to a powder constitute *halo*, a favourite article with the natives of the eastern coast of Africa, and which they mix daily with their food, for the purpose of diminishing the excess of perspiration occasioned by the heat of those climates; even Europeans find it serviceable in some cases of fever and other diseases. At Sierra Leone this tree does not grow larger than a common apple tree. The wood is spongy, soft, and light, and is of use as timber. In Abyssinia the wild bees perforate it for the purpose of lodging their honey in the holes,—which honey is reckoned the best in the country. On the eastern coast of Africa, the tree is liable to the attack of a species of fungus, which vegetates in the woody part, and which, without changing its color or appearance, destroys life, and renders the part so attacked very soft. Such trunks as have been so attacked are hollowed out into chambers, and within them are suspended the dead bodies of those who are refused the honour of burial. There they become mummies, perfectly dry and well preserved, without any further preparation or embalmment, and are known by the name of *guiriots*. The farinaceous pulp enveloping the seeds tastes somewhat like gingerbread, and is eaten with or without sugar by the natives. At Bangole, it forms the principal part of the food of the natives, who season many of their dishes with it, especially a kind of gruel made of corn, called *rooy*. It was the chief support of Major Pedley's expedition for ten or twelve days. The juice expressed, and mixed with sugar, or a syrup made of it, is used in putrid and pestilential fevers. At Cairo they reduce the pulp to a powder, and use it in various disorders. Owing to these circumstances, the fruit forms an article of commerce. The Mandinges carry it to the eastern and more southern parts of Africa, and through the medium of the Arabs, it reaches Morocco, and even Egypt. If the fruit is decayed or injured, it is burned; the leys are boiled with rancid palm-oil, and the negroes use it instead of soap.

THE CHINESE ANISE-SEED TREE.

'In Japan, they place bundles and garlands of this tree in their temples before their idols, and on the tombs of their friends. They also burn the powdered bark as incense to their idols. The plant is stomachic and carminative, and is used in the eastern countries in the cholic, rheumatism, &c. The Chinese chew it after dinner as a stomachic and sweetener of the breath. In some parts of the East Indies, the natives and the Dutch settlers mix it with their tea and sherbet. A branch put into the decoction of *Tetràodon hispidum*, is supposed to increase the virulance of that poison. The bark finely powdered is used by the public watchmen of Japan to make a chronometer or instrument for measuring the hours, by slowly sparkling at certain spaces in a box, in order to direct where the public bells are to sound.'

Mr Don has not given so much attention to the style as to the accuracy of his work; it has all the clearness which results from his mastery of the subject; but his expressions occasionally become confused by what would seem to be an endeavour to render them more explanatory; the following passage will better convey our meaning:—

'It differs from *Polygaleæ* in the flowers being regular, not irregular; in the capsules being many-seeded, not 1—2—seeded; as well as in the leaves being stipulate, not exstipulate.'

This reminds us of a little work written for young children, by a celebrated authoress, which commences with the following accurate announcement:—"Harry was brother to Lucy, and Lucy was sister to Harry." Had the present work appeared as an original one, we should have welcomed it with unmingled pleasure, as a valuable work of science. With Martyn's Miller it has little in common but the subject; a holder of the copyright of the one, could scarcely have complained of the publication of the other; and, for the reasons before stated, we regret that it has made its appearance with so close a reference to that work. It is not adapted to supersede it with any but the scientific; and if the publishers were to print an improved edition of the former work, on its old plan, we do not believe that one would in any degree interfere with the sale of the other.

SINGULAR ADVENTURE.

One day, in one of the crowded streets, I met a poor young girl, who seemed utterly bewildered; she stopped me, to ask if I would tell her the name of the street she was in. Her accent was broad Scotch, and her look and air of perfect simplicity was, I perceived, not assumed, but genuine. I gave her the information she wanted, and asked her where she lived, and if she was in search of any friend's house. She said she did not live anywhere in London; she was but just arrived from Scotland, and knew nobody who had any house or lodging of their own in town, but she was looking for a friend of the name of Peggy; and Peggy was a Scotch girl, who was born within a mile of the place where she lived in Scotland. Peggy was in service in London, and had written her direction to some house in this street; but the number of the house, and the names of the master or mistress, had been forgotten. The poor girl was

determined, she said, to try every house, for she had come all the way from Scotland to see Peggy, and she had no other dependence!

It seemed a hopeless case. I was so much struck with her simplicity and forlorn condition, that I could not leave her in this perplexity, an utter stranger as she evidently was to the dangers of London. I went with her, though I own without the slightest hope of her succeeding in the object of her search; knocked at every door, and made inquiries at every house. When we came near the end of the street, she was in despair, and cried bitterly; but as one of the last doors opened, and as a footman was surlily beginning to answer my questions, she darted past him, exclaiming, 'There's Peggy!' She flew along the passage to a servant girl, whose head had just appeared as she was coming up stairs. I never heard or saw stronger expressions of joy and affection than at this meeting: and I scarcely ever, for any service I had been able in the course of my life to do for my fellow-creatures, received such grateful thanks, as I did from this poor Scotch lassy and her Peggy for the little assistance I afforded her.—*Edgeworth's Memoirs.*

CHAT AND MISCELLANIES.

PRACTICE NOT MAKING PERFECT.—During Curran's last illness, his physician observing in the morning that he seemed to cough with difficulty, he answered—That is rather surprising, as I have been practising all night.

ENGLISH, SCOTCH, AND IRISH.—The English, abroad, can never get to look as if they were at home. The Irish and Scotch, after being some time in a place, get the air of the natives: but an Englishman, in any foreign court, looks about him as if he was going to steal a tankard.—*Dean Lockier*

— The murderer is dissected in Surgeons' Hall gratis; and the rich sinner is embowered in his own apartment at a great expense. The robber, exposed to open air, wastes away in hoops of iron; and the gentleman, confined to a damp vault, moulders away in sheets of lead; and while the fowls of the air greedily prey upon the one, the vermin of the earth eagerly devour the other.—*Fletcher of Madeley.*

ANCIENT HISTORY.—Before the invention of printing, original copies being few and confined to the possession of rich individuals or public libraries, the number of persons who could collect materials for the composition of historical works was necessarily very limited. Their statements were not so liable to be questioned as those of modern writers, and they might omit or alter facts with great impunity. The circle of their readers being very confined, their judges and censors were proportionably few. There was no public opinion; every question was decided by the spirit of faction or prejudice, and passion alone influenced the judgment.—VOLNEY.

AN AMERICAN ANTICIPATION, IN THE YEAR 1795.—How the national debts that now exist in several countries are to be disposed of, under a change of government, is indeed a question of serious magnitude. Probably that of France will be nearly extinguished by the national domains and the confiscated property. Those of most other catholic countries may be balanced in the same way. In some protestant nations, where the debts and domains have lost their relative proportion, the case will be widely different. But whatever may be the fate of the debts, I am as clear that they ought not, as I am that they will not, impede the progress of liberty.

CURE FOR GOUT.—A young man at the age of 25, was of a most enormous corpulence of body. He was an only son, and very rich. He experienced an attack of gout, which frightened him so much, that he entered on the following regime of exercise. On Mondays, he played at tennis for three or four hours in the afternoon; on Tuesdays, he devoted the same space to mall; on Wednesdays, he hunted; on Thursdays, he rode; on Fridays, he exercised at arms; on Saturdays, he walked to one of his country seats, three leagues distant; and on Sundays returned on foot again. The remedy proved so successful, that at the end of eighteen months he was reduced to common dimensions. He married; and continuing his exercises, he got rid of all the humours with which he had been gorged. From a mis-shapen mass, he became a well made and vigorous man, exempt from gout, and enjoying perfect health.—*Loubet's Letters on Gout.*

ANCIENT MIRACLE PLAYS.—The oldest Mysteries now extant, and in all probability the first which appeared in the English language, are the Chester Mysteries, written by Ralph Higden the Chronicler, and exhibited at Chester, in the year 1327, at the expense of the trading companies of that city. The Fall of Lucifer was represented by the Tanners. The Creation, by the Drapers. The Deluge, by the Dyers. Abraham, Melchisedech, and Lot, by the Barbers. Moses, Balak, and Balaam, by the Cappers. The Salutation and Nativity, by the Wrights. The Shepherds feeding their Flocks by Night, by the Painters and Glaziers. The Three Kings, by the Vintners. The Oblation of the Three Kings, by the Mercers. The King of the Innocents, by the Goldsmiths. The Purification, by the Blacksmiths. The Temptation, by the Butchers. The Last Supper, by the Bakers. The Blind Men and Lazarus, by the Glovers. Jesus and the Lepers, by the Corvisarys. Christ's Passion, by the Bowyers, Flechers, and Ironmongers. Descent into Hell, by the Cooks and Innkeepers. The Resurrection, by the Skinners. The Ascension, by the Tailors. The Election of St Matthias, Sending of the Holy Ghost, &c. by the Fishmongers. Antechrist, by the Clothiers. Day of Judgment, by the Websters.—*Retrospective Review*, No. II.

We attended at the Surrey Theatre, on Saturday, and were much interested in the performance of MASSINGER'S tragedy of the *Fatal Dowry*, the play on which ROWE founded his very inferior production, *The Fair Penitent*. We have no room in this paper for remarks; to-morrow we shall offer a few.

PERFORMANCES OF LAST NIGHT.

KING'S THEATRE.—Anna Boleyn—A Divertissement.
HAYMARKET.—Madame du Barri—The School for Coquettes.
ENGLISH OPERA.—The Sorceress—The Haunted Hulk.

THIS EVENING.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

HOWARD PAYNE'S Opera of
CLARI.
Clari, Miss Taylor. Fidalma, Mrs Faucit. Vespina, Mrs Humby.
Ninetta, Mrs T. Hill. The Duke Vivaldi, Mr Brindal. Rolamo, Mr Cooper.
Claudio, Mr Huckel. Stephano, Mr Field. Jocoso, Mr Webster.
Nicolo, Mr W. Johnson. Nimpedo, Mr J. Cooper. Geronio, Mr Bishop.
Pietro, Mr V. Webster. Giulio, Mr Coates. Page, Master Reed.
Characters in the Episode.—Wife of Pelgrino, Mrs W. Clifford.
Leoda, Miss J. Scott. Nobleman, Mr Bartlett. Pelgrino, Mr Mulleney.

After which, Mrs GORE'S Comedy, in Five Acts, called
THE SCHOOL FOR COQUETTES.
Lady Hampton, Mrs Glover. Lady Honoria Howard, Miss Taylor.
Amelia, Miss Sidney. Miss Starchwell, Mrs Tayleure. Lisette, Mrs T. Hill.
Caroline Hampton, Miss J. Scott. General Lumley, Mr Gattie.
Lord Marston, Mr Cooper. Lord Polter, Mr Brindal.
Colonel Donnelly, Mr Bartlett. Frederick Lumley, Mr Vining.
Howard, Mr H. Wallack. Fitz Albyn, Mr Coveney. Davison, Mr W. Johnson.
Ralph, Mr Webster. Latitat, Mr Bishop. Marron, Mr Newcombe.
The Epilogue by Miss Taylor.

To conclude with the Farce of
THE ROMP.
Priscilla Tomboy, Miss Sidney.
Penelope, Mrs T. Hill. Miss La Blond, Miss J. Scott.
Old Barnacle, Mr Gattie. Captain Sightly, Mr B. Taylor.
Watty Cockney, Mr Harley. Old Cockney, Mr Mulleney.

To-morrow, Madame du Barry; Separation and Reparation; and Fricandeau.

ENGLISH OPERA, THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.

F. RIES'S Serio-Comic Opera, called
THE SORCERESS.
The Countess Christine, Miss Betts. Liska, Miss H. Cawse.
Stella, Miss Ferguson. Mina, Miss Novello.
The Stadtholder of Gyllestein, Mr J. Russell. Count Arwed, Mr T. Millar.
Black Naddock, Mr H. Phillips. Oscar, Mr Aldridge.
Megnet, Mr J. Bland. Granx Blunderbudski, Mr J. Reeve.
After which, Mr Collins, surnamed the English Paganini, will execute his extraordinary performances on the Violin.

After which, the Operetta of
OLD AND YOUNG.
Peggy, Miss Pincott.
Old Wilton, Mr F. Matthews. Charles Mowbray, Mr Baker. Peter, Mr Salter.
William, Mr Heath. Matilda Mowbray, Master Hector Mowbray, Master Gobbleton Mowbray, Master Foppington Mowbray, Miss Poole, in which she will sing, 'The merry drummer,' and 'Meet me by moonlight.'

To conclude with the Comic Operetta, called
THE MIDDLE TEMPLE; OR, 'WHICH IS MY SON?'
Mrs Middlemist, Mrs C. Jones. Julia, Miss Pincott. Penelope, Mrs Keeley.
Briefless, Mr Wrench. Brutus Hairbrain, Mr J. Reeve.
Mr Prettyman, Mr W. Bennett. Doggins, Mr Salter.

To conclude with an Original Drama, called
THE HAUNTED HULK.
Suzette, Miss Pincott. Patty Maggs, Miss Ferguson.
Raker, Mr Salter. Caleb Calder, Mr O. Smith, Sam Sprouts, Mr J. Reeve.
Richard Oakum, Mr Perkins. Stephen Barncliffe, Mr T. Millar.
Old Barncliffe, Mr F. Matthews. Dragonface, Mr Addison.

To-morrow, The Sorceress; Old Regimentals; and Tom Thumb.

SURREY THEATRE.

SHAKSPEARE'S Tragedy of
KING LEAR.
Cordelia, Miss Scott. Regan, Madame Simon.
Coneril, Miss Nicol. Aranthe, Miss Rumens.
King Lear, Mr Osbaldiston.
Duke of Kent, Mr Williams. Duke of Albany, Mr Honner.
Duke of Burgundy, Mr Maitland. Duke of Cornwall, Mr Almar.
Duke of Glo'ster, Mr Gough. Edgar, Mr Elton. Edmund, Mr D. Pitt.
Oswald, Mr Rogers. Physician, Mr Webb.
Captain of the Guard, Mr Asbury. Herald, Mr Tully.

After which, the New Romantic Drama, entitled
LE BELVEDER: OR, THE SICILIAN EXILE.
Emilia, Miss Scott. Floretta, Mrs Vale.
The Duca Belmonti, Mr Gough. Jeronymo, Mr Williams.
Loredan, Mr Osbaldiston. Merallo, Mr D. Pitt. Ludovic, Mr C. Hill.
Carli and Sabastiano, Messrs Honner and Webb.
Giulio, Mr Lee. Pirates, Messrs Tully, Fry, Franklin, Nichols, Fone, &c.

To conclude with a Petite Drama, entitled
MILITARY MOVEMENTS.
Emily, Madame Simon.
Mr Matchem, Mr Williams. Colonel Rakely, Mr C. Hill.
Captain Belmont, Mr Honner. Shuffle, Mr Vale. Robert, Mr Hobbs.

CITY SUBSCRIPTION THEATRE,

MILTON STREET, FORE STREET.

MONCRIEFF'S Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, called
ROCHESTER; OR, CHARLES II's MERRY DAYS.
In which Mrs Chapman, Miss Forde, Miss Anjohn, Mrs Baker, Mrs Weston, Miss E. Tree, Mr J. Vining, Mr Chapman, Mr Buckstone, Mr Cooke, Mr Manders Mr Macarthy, and Mr Worrell.

After which, the New Domestic Drama, called
EILY O'CONNOR; OR, THE FOSTER BROTHER.
Eily O'Connor, Mrs Chapman. Mrs Cregan, Miss E. Tree.
Anna Chute, Miss Forde. Hardress Cregan, Mr J. Vining.
Danny Mann, Mr Chapman. Foxey Jackson, Mr Buckstone.
And OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.

ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE.—Mazeppa—Ducrow's Scenes in the Circle—And other Entertainments.
COBURG THEATRE.—Alexander the Great—Bandit of the Blind Mine—Trial by Battle.
VAUXHALL GARDENS.—Variety of Entertainments.

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